

Appl. No. 10/034,079
Amdt. dated Jan. 22, 2004
Reply to Office Action of Oct. 24, 2003

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A fiber comprising an energy receptive additive capable of dielectric heating and wherein said fiber has a dielectric loss of between 0.5 to 15 and where the energy receptive additive is capable of absorbing electromagnetic energy at a frequency within the range of 0.01 to 300 GHz and melting the fiber in less than one second.
2. (Currently amended) The fiber of claim 1 and wherein said fiber has a dielectric loss of between 1 to 15.
3. (Original) The fiber of claim 1 and wherein said fiber has a dielectric loss of between 5 to 15.
4. (Original) The fiber of claim 1 having a dielectric loss tangent of between 0.1 to 1.
5. (Original) The fiber of claim 4 having a dielectric loss tangent of between 0.3 to 0.7.
6. (Original) The fiber of claim 3 further comprising a synthetic polymer selected from the group consisting of polyolefins, polycaprolactones, polyamides, polyetheramides, polyurethanes, polyesters, poly (meth) acrylates metal salts, polyether, poly(ethylene- vinyl acetate) random and block copolymers, polyethylene -b- polyethylene glycol block copolymers, polypropylene oxide-b-polyethylene oxide copolymers and blends thereof.
7. (Currently amended) The fiber of claim 3 wherein said energy receptive additive is selected from the group consisting of carbon black, ferrite, tin oxide, silicon carbide, calcium chloride, zircon, magnetite, ~~silicon carbide, calcium chloride,~~ alumina, magnesium oxide, and titanium dioxide.
8. (Original) The fiber of claim 5 wherein said energy receptive additive is present in an amount between 2 and 40 weight percent.
9. (Original) The fiber of claim 6 wherein said energy receptive additive is present in an amount between 5 and 15 weight percent.

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10. (Original) The fiber of claim 7 wherein said fiber is a bicomponent fiber selected from the type consisting of sheath/core and island in the sea.
11. (Original) The fiber of claim 8 wherein said fiber is a sheath/core bicomponent fiber and said additive is present in said sheath.
12. (Original) The fiber of claim 8 wherein said fiber is a sheath/core bicomponent fiber and said additive is present in said core.
13. (Original) The fiber of claim 8 wherein said fiber is a sheath/core bicomponent fiber and said additive is present in said sheath and said core.
14. (Original) The fiber of claim 7 wherein said fiber is a biconstituent fiber.
15. (Original) The fiber of claim 8 wherein said fiber is crimped.
16. (Original) The fiber of claim 8 wherein said fiber is extendible.
17. (Original) The fiber of claim 8 wherein said fiber is elastic.
18. (Original) The fiber of claim 11 wherein said energy receptive additive is carbon black in an amount between 2 and 40 weight percent.
19. (Currently amended) A fiber comprising an energy receptive additive in an amount between 5 and 15 weight percent, synthetic polymer and wherein said fiber has a dielectric loss of at least 0.5 and where the energy receptive additive is capable of absorbing electromagnetic energy at a frequency within the range of 0.01 to 300 GHz and melting the fiber in less than one second.
20. (Currently amended) A nonwoven web comprising fibers having an energy receptive additive capable of dielectric heating and having a dielectric loss of between 0.5 to 15 and where the energy receptive additive is capable of absorbing electromagnetic energy at a frequency within the range of 0.01 to 300 GHz and melting the fiber in less than one second.